

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 10067 110505Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 SAJ-01 NIC-01 SAM-01 CU-05

DRC-01 /120 W

----- 098355

R 110305Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2161

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 10067

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: FEI I-MIN ON MAINLAND SITUATION

SUMMARY. HONG KONG COMMUNIST EDITOR FEI I-MIN REPORTEDLY SPOKE OF THE PRC'S POLITICAL MOVEMENT AS DRAWING TO AN END. HE SAID PREMIER CHOU WAS NOT DYING, THAT OCTOBER 1 NATIONAL DAY WOULD NOT BE A GRAND AFFAIR, AND THAT THE NPC MIGHT BE HELD LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. NEW YORK TIMES BUREAU CHIEF LELYVELD GAVE CONGENOFF FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF A SEPTEMBER 10 CONVERSATION WITH FEI I-MIN, EDITOR OF THE PRC-OWNED HONG KONG COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER TA KUNG PAO.

2. FEI WAS MUCH MORE RELAXED, EXPANSIVE, AND SEEMINGLY "RELIEVED" ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE PRC THAN HE HAD BEEN WHEN LELYVELD LAST SAW HIM A MONTH OR SO EARLIER. FEI SPOKE OF THE INTERNAL POLITICAL MOVEMENT AS COMING TO A CONCLUSION: "IT HAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 10067 110505Z

ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVE." FEI DESCRIBED THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN

TO DISCREDIT LIN PIAO'S MILITARY REPUTATION AND LINE AS "A REMAINING TASK TO BE DONE IN THE MOVEMENT." FEI DISMISSED ANY POSSIBILITY THAT THE MOVEMENT MIGHT INTENSIFY AND RESURGE.

3. FEI DESCRIBED THE PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION AS ONE IN WHICH "WE ARE LEARNING THE REAL MEANING OF CHAIRMAN MAO'S INSTRUCTION TO 'GRASP REVOLUTION AND PROMOTE PRODUCTION.'" FEI, HOWEVER, REFUSED TO CONCEDE THAT THE MOVEMENT HAD HURT PRODUCTION: "LOOK AT THE GOLD MEDALS WE HAVE WON AT THE ASIAN GAMES. THOSE YOUNGSTERS WERE DOING WHAT THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO DO THIS SUMMER, TRAINING. THEY WERE NOT OUT READING ANCIENT HISTORY."

4. PREMIER CHOU IS NOT DYING, FEI SAID. HE NEEDS REST AND HIS DOCTORS ARE INSISTING THAT HE CUT OUT HIS MEETINGS WITH FOREIGNERS. CHOU IS, HOWEVER, STILL DOING "A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS," PERHAPS WORKING ON THE NEW STATE CONSTITUTION. ANYWAY, FEI SAID, THERE HAS BEEN "A NEW DIVISION OF LABOR;" VICE PREMIERS TENG AND LI HANDLE THE PREMIER'S DUTIES, CHANG CHUN-CHIAO AND YAO WEN-YUAN ARE IN CHARGE OF CULTURE AND IDEOLOGICAL MATTERS, AND WANG HUNG-WEN IS INVOLVED WITH THE PARTY. FEI WOULD NOT BE DRAWN INTO DISCUSSING CHIANG CHING.

5. FEI BACKED OFF HIS EARLIER PROJECTION THAT THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WOULD BE HELD SOON. IT MIGHT COMMENCE BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR. THIS YEAR'S OCTOBER 1 NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION IN PEKING WOULD NOT BE ON A PARTICULARLY GRAND SCALE; FEI WAS NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND.

6. ON MACAU, FEI SAID HE HAD JUST SPENT AN EVENING WITH MACAU'S COMMUNIST LEADER HO YIN AND THEY HAD "ENJOYED A GOOD LAUGH" ABOUT THE FUSS BEING RAISED OVER MACAU'S FUTURE. A HANDFUL OF PORTUGUESE WERE TALKING NONSENSE ABOUT A COMING CHANGE IN THE COLONY'S STATUS. "I THINK THEY ARE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS... THAT IS, I MEAN, THEY ARE REVISIONISTS, TROTSKYITES." THEY WERE NOT TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY, FEI ADDED.

CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK10067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740252-0632
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740957/aaaabvbsb.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FEI I-MIN ON MAINLAND SITUATION SUMMARY. HONG KONG COMMUNIST EDITOR FEI I-MIN REPORTEDLY
TAGS: PINT, CH, (CHOU EN-LAI), (FEI I-MIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005